

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

CRM-M-56 of 2022

DECIDED ON: 12th January, 2022

Rampal

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

State of Haryana

.....RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN.

Present: Mr. Raman Chawla, Advocate for petitioner.

Mr. Karan Sharma, DAG Haryana.

AVNEESH JHINGAN, J (ORAL)

Due to COVID-19 situation, the Court is convened through video conference.

Prayer in this petition is for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.08 dated 06.08.2021, under Sections 120-B of IPC, 1860 and Sections 7, 7-A, 49 and 88 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, registered at Police Station SVB Hisar, District Hisar.

The complainant-Ram Bilas alleged that Suresh Chaudhary, Drug Control Officer and Ram Pal-petitioner demanded Rupees Forty thousand for issuing drugs licence for running a wholesale business of medicine. The complainant approached the Vigilance Bureau and a trap was laid. Currency notes worth Rupees Forty thousand were laced with Phenolphthalein Powder, Ram Pal-petitioner was apprehended red handed accepting the amount. Rupees Two thousand were recovered from Sumit Kumar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is in custody since 7.8.2021. Investigation is complete. Petitioner was working as Peon the office of Drug Controller, he had no official capacity to renew the licence. No recovery is to be made from him and co-accused has been granted bail.

Learned State counsel opposes the prayer for bail and submits that the petitioner was apprehended red handed and he submits that challan stands

The petitioner is in custody for more than five months, co-accused were granted anticipatory bail and regular bail by this Court, no recovery is to be made, though challan stands presented but conclusion of trial is likely to take some time, bail is granted to the petitioner on furnishing surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned.

The petition is allowed.

It is clarified that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

12th January, 2022
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(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>Yes</i>